

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GUATEM 02466 032018Z

60

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 RSC-01

SIL-01 PC-04 DRC-01 SCS-03 SCCT-02 AID-20 CCO-00

FBO-01 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NIC-01 NSC-07 SP-03 OC-06

OPR-02 PA-04 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01 OMB-01 SS-20

SY-04 /145 W

----- 026062

O R 031950Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3002

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

USCINCSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L GUATEMALA 2466

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, ELAB

SUBJECT: AFTERMATH OF MAY DAY: SITUATION CALMS; GOG STATEMENTS BLAME  
OPPOSITION; RUMORS ON CANCELLATION OF DCG

REF: GUATEMALA 2447

1. AS OF MORNING MAY 3, NO NEW DISTURBANCES HAVE ERUPTED IN AFTER-  
MATH OF MAY DAY PROBLEMS. ACCORDING TO PRENSA LIBRE REPORT, WOUND-  
ED DEPUTY JULIO DE LEON FLORES IS RECOVERING AND HIS DOCTORS BELIEVE  
THAT HE WILL SURVIVE. OTHER REPORTS BROADCAST ON RADIO INDICATE  
THAT HIS CONDITION REMAINS GRAVE. NO FURNERAL PLANS FOR DEAD MARCHERS  
HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN PRESS. WE UNDERSTAND THAT CORPSES HAVE  
NOT BEEN DELIVERED TO FAMILIES, THUS DELAYING FUNERALS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GUATEM 02466 032018Z

2. ON EVENING OF MAY 2, GOG BROADCAST ANOTHER BULLETIN REGARDING MAY DAY. IT REITERATED CHARGE THAT OPPOSITION LEADERS WERE CAUSE OF VIOLENCE, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT GOG DID NOT HOLD LABOR LEADERS WHO ORGANIZED MARCH RESPONSIBLE. BULLETIN DID, HOWEVER, PRAISE GROUP OF UNIONS ALLIED TO GOG FOR NOT ATTEMPTING TO ORGANIZE ANY MARCH OR PUBLIC DEMONSTRATION ON MAY DAY.

3. ALSO ON MAY 2, MLN PUBLISHED STATEMENT ON MAY DAY IN WHICH IT REPUDIATED AND CONDEMNED CRIMINAL ACTS COMMITTED BY "COMMUNISTS AND THEIR CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC ALLIES," CALLED ON PUBLIC AUTHORITIES TO PUNISH "THE CRIMINALS" SEVERELY, AND BLAMED "FALSE TRADE UNION LEADERS" FOR ALLOWING "TRAITOROUS INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL LEADERS" (READ DCG) TO USE LABOR MOVEMENT. MLN LEADER AND PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS MARIO SANDOVAL ALSO CALLED ON MINISTER OF GOVERNMENT ROBERTO HERRERA IBARGUEN TO EXPLAIN WHY MANUEL COLOM ARGUETA HAS BEEN ALLOWED TO ARM HIS BODYGUARDS WITH PROHIBITED WEAPONS(SUBMACHINE GUNS).

4. IN MIDST OF ALL THIS, PRESS HAS REPORTED RUMORS THAT GOG PLANS TO CANCEL CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY'S LEGAL REGISTRATION. GOG OFFICIALS INTERVIEWED BY PRESS REFUSE TO CONFIRM RUMORS BUT REPORTEDLY DECLARED THAT SUFFICIENT JUSTIFICATION EXISTS FOR CANCELLATION. MLN DEPUTY DAVID VEGA DECLARED TO PRESS THAT DCG'S INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER PUTS IT OUTSIDE CONSTITUTION AND NOTED LONG-HELD MLN POSITION THAT DCG'S REGISTRATION SHOULD BE CANCELLED. ACTING DIRECTOR OF ELECTORAL REGISTRY SANTIAGO PIMENTAL TOLD PRESS THAT HE HAS RECEIVED NO REQUEST TO INVESTIGATE CHARGES AGAINST DCG.

5. COMMENT: CANCELLATION OF DCG WOULD DRIVE SIGNIFICANT DEMOCRATIC SECTOR INTO ILLEGAL STATUS. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT GOVERNMENT IS SERIOUSLY PLANNING SUCH A MOVE BUT WILL NATURALLY MONITOR THIS POSSIBILITY CLOSELY. END COMMENT.  
MELOY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PRESS COMMENTS, MAY DAY, POLITICAL SITUATION, DEATHS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 MAY 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** garlanwa  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974GUATEM02466  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740107-0157  
**From:** GUATEMALA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740577/aaaacqwz.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** GUATEMALA 2447  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 09 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <09 SEP 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <13 JAN 2003 by garlanwa>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AFTERMATH OF MAY DAY: SITUATION CALMS; GOG STATEMENTS BLAME OPPOSITION; RUMORS ON CANCELLATION OF DCG  
**TAGS:** PINT, PINS, ELAB  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005